

Amendment
Serial No. 10/712,962

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in the application. Claims 1-13 stand rejected.

Claim 10 was objected to for a typographical error. In response, claim 10 has been amended to recite "eighth" instead of "eigh", and "sixth" instead of "eighth", as suggested by the examiner.

Claims 11 and 12 have been rejected as being indefinite due to inconsistency in terms. In response, claims 11 and 12 have been amended to recite "the forward optical signal" and "the backward optical signal" instead of plural recitations.

Accordingly, in view of above amendments, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of these objection and rejection.

The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for indicating that any one of the claims 3-10 would allowable if rewritten as an independent claim, incorporating all features of the base and any intervening claim. In response, applicant has amended claims to incorporate the allowable features. In particular, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate features cited in dependent claim 3, and claims 5, 7, and 9 have been rewritten as independent claims. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

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Should the Examiner deem that there are any issues which may be best resolved by telephone, please contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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